SPAWN
image
345
DIGITAL EDITION
McCONVILLE
BARBERI
RAMOS

WORLD RECORD-BREAKING COMIC!

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SPAWN

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PREVIOUSLY IN *SPAWN*

Just when Cataclysm feels the war is all but lost, a new ally joins him.

image

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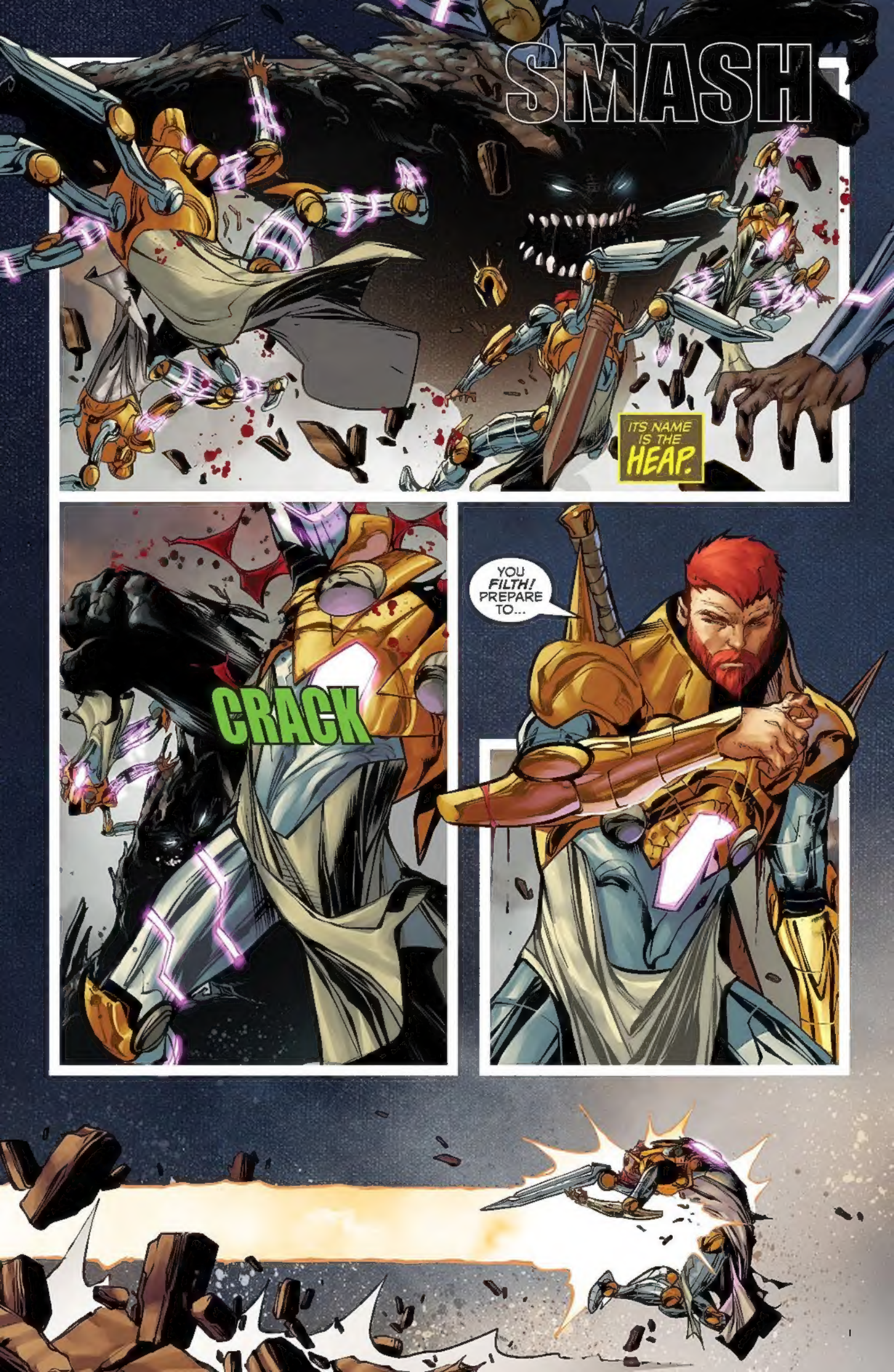
GREENWORLD
THREE DAYS AGO.
YOU'RE NOT SERIOUS.
NONE OF US ARE PLEASED ABOUT THIS, NYX, BUT CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE FORCED US HERE.
THIS BREAKS CENTURIES OF NEUTRALITY. GREENWORLD NEVER INTERVENES LIKE THIS.
WE'VE NEVER FACED A SITUATION LIKE THIS, EITHER.
NOW, THE LIKELIEST OUTCOMES OF THIS WAR IS HEAVEN CONQUERS HELL ENTIRELY OR THAT SINN TAKES OVER THE THRONE.
BOTH WOULD BE CATASTROPHIC FOR US.
THE THRONE OF HELL MUST BE OCCUPIED, AND SO, CATACLYSM IS THE BEST OF OUR REGRETFUL OPTIONS.

OUR INTELLIGENCE SUGGESTS HE CANNOT ACCESS THE THRONE'S *'ADDICTIVE'* POWERS DUE TO HIS PHYSIOLOGY.
WE'VE ALSO HEARD THAT HE CAN BE NEGOTIATED WITH.
NO.
THERE MUST BE ANOTHER WAY.
THERE *ISN'T.*
AND IF YOU BOTH HAD SUCH *CONCERNS* ABOUT THIS, PERHAPS YOU SHOULD'VE TRIED HARDER TO PREVENT IT. IF YOU HAD TAKEN CONTROL OF ALL THE DEAD ZONES FROM SPAWN WE WOULDN'T BE IN THIS POSITION NOW.
YOU, NYX, HAVE BECOME A SCION OF GREENWORLD.
RESPONSIBLE FOR ***PROTECTING*** GREENWORLD ABOVE ALL ELSE.
NOW GO. DO YOUR DUTY.
ENOUGH! WE MUST ACT OR ELSE SINN WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY TAKE THE THRONE. IF HE DOES, NONE OF US WILL SURVIVE.
THAT WAS ***YOUR*** JOB, NOT OURS! WE DID...

HELL
NOW
THE SIEGE OF THE FANGS, DAY 5
GABRIEL: COMMANDER OF THE PURIFIER FORCES.
THIS IS TURNING INTO A SLAUGHTER, MY LORD.
WE DON'T HAVE THE NUMBERS FOR THIS. WE NEED TO LEAVE OR WE'LL BE TRAPPED HERE!
THEN-- GIVE THE ORDER.
INCOMING!


SMASH
ITS NAME IS THE HEAP.
CRACK
YOU FILTH! PREPARE TO...

GOOD WORK, HEAP! KEEP PUSHING.
YOU SHOULD HAVE STAYED OUT OF THIS, WE'D HAVE RESPECTED GREENWORLD'S NEUTRALITY.
"YOU'VE BROKEN YOUR OATH! AFTER HELL, WE WILL LAY WASTE TO YOUR ETERNAL FORESTS, TOO!"
YOUR SACRED GARDENS WILL BURN AND EVERY ROOT AND BRANCH WILL BE RIPPED OUT 'TIL NOTHING REMAINS.

SO-- GREENWORLD HAS FINALLY CHOSEN A SIDE? YOU MUST BE SCARED.
SCARED YOU WEREN'T CAPABLE OF MAINTAINING *CONTROL* OF YOUR KINGDOM.
I AM A SCION OF GREENWORLD. ON THEIR BEHALF I AM HERE TO OFFER YOU OUR SUPPORT.
AND WHAT DO YOUR MASTERS WANT IN RETURN?

STABILITY. ONCE THIS WAR IS OVER, EARTH IS OFF LIMITS.
I HAVE NO INTEREST IN EARTH.
TELL YOUR PARLIAMENT I ACCEPT.
ZEBUS, TAKE THE PRISONER AND EXTRACT EVERY-THING YOU CAN FROM HIM.
RAUM. GO PREPARE PROPER ACCOMMODATIONS FOR OUR NEW *ALLIES.*

The 7th Realm
ONE OF THE FEW TERRITORIES THAT HAS, THUS FAR, ESCAPED THE WAR'S REACH.
DUE TO THE DEAD ZONES' ONGOING **INSTABILITY**, IT'S BEEN IMPOSSIBLE FOR SPAWN TO PREDICT WHERE IN HELL THE PORTAL WOULD SEND HIM AND HIS TEAM. WHILE NOT IDEAL, THE 7th REALM IS THEIR STARTING POINT.
TO CROSS THE VAST WASTELAND BETWEEN THEM AND THEIR TARGET, SPAWN KNOWS THEY NEED TO BE SURGICAL IN THEIR MOVEMENTS, NEEDING TO AVOID **ANY** CONFLICT THAT MIGHT SLOW THEIR PROGRESS.
THOUGH IN HELL, THERE'S NO SHORTAGE OF THREATS LURKING IN THE SHADOWS...

SPAWN'S SOLDIERS KNOW THAT THEY WON'T ALL BE COMING BACK FROM THIS ENCOUNTER

SOME, LIKE MEDIEVAL AND REDEEMER, ARE HERE OUT OF A SENSE OF DUTY OR HONOR. OTHERS, LIKE REAPER, ARE DRIVEN BY FUTURE PRESTIGE

GUNSLINGER, LIKE MANY OF THE OTHER SOLDIERS, IS DRIVEN SIMPLY BY SELF-PRESERVATION

BECAUSE THEY ALL KNOW IF THIS WAR IS LOST

THERE WILL BE NOWHERE SAFE TO HIDE
CAN YOU BELIEVE HIM? MARCHING AROUND BARKING ORDERS WHEN THIS WHOLE MESS IS HIS FAULT.
HIS PART WILL NOT BE FORGOTTON. IF WE SURVIVE, THERE WILL BE A RECKONING.
YES. IN TIME. BUT FOR NOW, THIS THREADBARE ALLIANCE BONDS THEM BECAUSE OF ONE MAN
SINN.
AND NO MATTER WHAT ERA THEY HAIL FROM, EACH HELLSPAWN IN THIS GROUP HAS HAD THEIR LIFE BLIGHTED BY THE MAN ONCE CALLED COGLIOSTRO
AND EACH KNOWS THAT FOR ALL SPAWN'S FLAWS, HE REMAINS THEIR BEST CHANCE AT STOPPING SINN

BECAUSE BY NOW, EVERY FACTION HAS DEPLOYED ENOUGH SCRAMBLERS AND ENCHANTMENTS TO MAKE ANY ATTEMPT AT TELEPORTATION IMPOSSIBLE.
SO, TRAVELING ON FOOT IT TAKES SPAWN'S TEAM A WEEK TO REACH THE EDGE OF THE 6th REALM
TWO ADDITIONAL DAYS ARE SPENT CROSSING THE NUMBING COLD OF LEVIATHAN'S DOMAIN.
UPON REACHING THE MALICIOUS HOLLOWS, THEY'RE FORCED TO SHELTER WHEN ONE OF HELL'S NECROMANCERS LOSES CONTROL OF A SPELL, UNLEASHING A PUNISHING STORM THAT COVERS THE REGION

WHILE QUESTIONING THEIR OWN SANITY
I KEEP THINKING I HEAR THE VOICES OF PEOPLE I KNOW WHO'VE DIED.
I FORGET-- THAT THIS IS YOUR FIRST TIME IN HELL.
DO NOT WORRY. THOSE VOICES ARE JUST ONE OF HELL'S MANY TRICKS TO CONFUSE YOU.
AT LEAST THE VOICES YOU HEAR ARE FRIENDLY. THE ONLY ONES I HEAR BELONG TO THOSE ENEMIES WHOSE LIVES I TOOK.
SADLY, YOUR OWN VICTIMS WILL SOON BE SCREAMING IN YOUR HEAD.
SPLASH!

WHAT WAS THAT?
I WAS SOUL CRUSHER
LIKE JESSICA, THIS IS SERGEI MEDVEDEV'S FIRST TRIP TO HELL
SEVERAL MOMENTS AGO, FROM THE DEPTHS OF THE SWAMP, HE BEGAN HEARING A VOICE CALLING FOR HELP
HIS SISTER NATASHA'S VOICE. HIS SISTER, WHO DIED MONTHS AGO IN A HORRIBLE ACCIDENT
HE KNOWS IT CAN'T BE REAL. AND YET, HE CONTINUES DEEPER

EVEN AFTER HE REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS, SERGE WILL CONTINUE FIGHTING AGAINST HIS RESTRAINTS WANTING TO RETURN TO THE SWAMP
IT WILL TAKE ANOTHER TWO HOURS FOR HIS MADNESS TO FULLY PASS

LATER AT THE EDGE OF HEAVEN-OCCUPIED TERRITORY
THEY'VE CREATED A DEFENSIVE PERIMETER, STRETCHING MILES IN EITHER DIRECTION.
CAN WE GO AROUND?
THAT'D TAKE TOO LONG. WE'RE ALREADY DAYS BEHIND WHERE WE NEED TO BE.
THERE HAS TO BE A WAY.
CAN YOU THREE SCOUT AHEAD? SEE IF THERE'S ANY KIND OF GAP IN THEIR PERIMETER WE CAN SNEAK THROUGH. MEDIEVAL, CAN YOU ESCORT THEM?

The 4th Realm
CADICLUS. YOUR PRESENCE IS NEEDED.
YES, LORD SINN.
COME, WALK WITH ME.
DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN WE MET? I WAS CONVINCED YOU WERE A SPY SENT BY CLOWN.
I HOPE YOU'VE CHANGED YOUR MIND.
THAT'S YET TO BE DETERMINED.
BUT YOU HAVE DONE WELL THESE PAST FEW MONTHS, CADICLUS. YOUR TASK, OF UNITING SO MANY DIFFERENT ARMIES UNDER ONE BANNER, WAS NOT EASY. YET, YOU DID IT.
THANK YOU, M'LORD.
SINCE SINN'S RETURN TO HELL, CADICLUS HAS BEEN THE ONE PERSON BY HIS SIDE EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.
AND THOUGH HE'D NEVER SAY IT ALOUD SINN FEELS A DEEP SENSE OF PRIDE HAVING WATCHED THIS BOY DEVELOP INTO A STRONG, CAPABLE LEADER.
I MAY JUST KEEP YOU ALIVE WHEN THIS IS DONE.

IF I MAY— THERE'S SOME CONCERN AMONGST THE SOLDIERS ABOUT GREENWORLD'S INTERVENTION.
UNDERSTOOD. BUT I AM *FOCUSED* ON THE *FUTURE*.
TELL ME, DO YOU KNOW WHAT A *ROYAL SABRE* IS?
I'M AFRAID I DON'T
IT'S ONE OF THE HIGHEST POSITIONS IN THE HELLFIRE COUNCIL, RESPONSIBLE FOR OVERSEEING THE ENTIRE MILITARY OF HELL.
WHEN I TAKE THE THRONE, I WANT YOU TO BE MY SABRE.
ME?
UNLESS THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE.
NO. NO. IT WOULD BE MY HONOR TO SERVE YOU.

THE INFERNAL KEEP
The 1st Realm
GREENWORLD'S INTERVENTION, IT'S GALVANIZED OUR FORCES, MY LIEGE. IN THE PAST WEEK ALONE, WE'VE ALREADY TAKEN SEVERAL PROVINCES AWAY FROM HEAVEN AND SINN.
IT'S EARLY, BUT IT FEELS LIKE MOMENTUM IN TH.S WAR IS RAPIDLY SHIFTING BACK TO US.
THOUGH, THERE HAS BEEN SOME DISCONTENT COMING FROM OTHER QUARTERS. I HAVE REPORTS ABOUT *RUMBLINGS* FROM SEVERAL MINOR LORDS IN THE 5th REALM WHO SEEM ANGRY THAT WE'RE HAVING TO RELY ON A *FOREIGN* POWER.
AT LEAST THREE HAVE OPENLY SAID THAT MAKES YOU LOOK *WEAK.*
WHEN THIS IS DONE, NO ONE WILL CARE WHAT BLADE WE USED TO KILL THE SNAKE.
INDEED. AND THERE IS FURTHER GOOD NEWS.
ANOTHER POTENTIAL ALLY WISHES TO SPEAK WITH YOU.

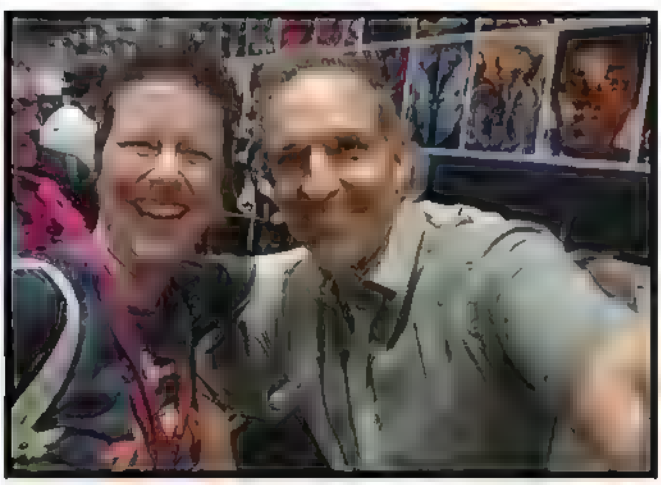
I HAVEN'T SPOKEN TO NYX SINCE SHE RETURNED, BUT THIS... IT DOESN'T ADD UP.
SHE WOULDN'T DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS. NOT WITH OUT GOOD REASON.
I'VE LEARNED, EVERYONE HAS AN AGENDA. SHE'S NO DIFFERENT.
DEATH WILL DO THAT.
BUT IF GREENWORLD GETS IN OUR WAY, WE TREAT THEM THE SAME AS HEAVEN AND HELL.
MAYBE CATACLYSM STAYING IN POWER IS THE BEST OPTION FOR NOW.
HE WON'T LAST. EVEN IF THEY COULD KEEP HIM IN POWER, HE'D BE DIMINISHED.
AND HIS CHALLENGER'S AREN'T GOING TO STOP COMING FOR HIM UNTIL SOME-ONE'S...
LOOK OUT!

WE'VE GOT INCOMING!
BOOM
christ almighty.
TO BE CONTINUED

2:1:1:3

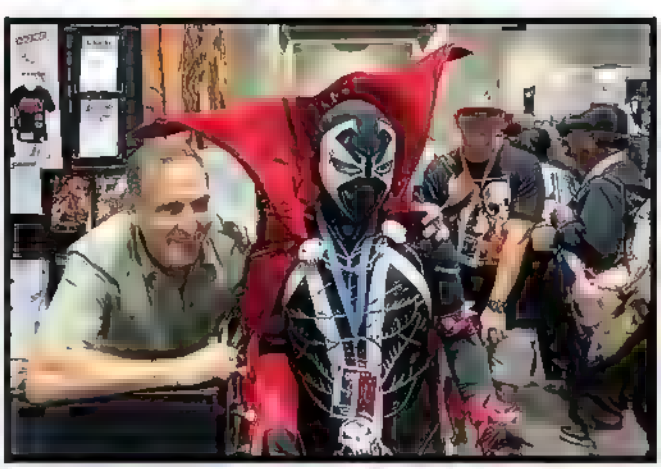
SPAWNING GROUND

PRESENTS: SDCC 2023 ROUNDUP



Spawn fans out in full force!

Rob Liefeld and Todd McFarlane



Jonathan Glapion and Todd McFarlane

Todd McFarlane and Jim Lee

Do you have a question or comment about Spawn? If so, e-mail it to us at:
spawningground@mcfarlane.com

NEED MORE SPAWN'S UNIVERSE?

DON'T MISS THESE ONGOING TITLES:

SPAWN

KING SPAWN

SCORCHED

GUNSLINGER SPAWN

FEATURING COVER ARTIST MIKE DEODATO IN SEPTEMBER 2023!

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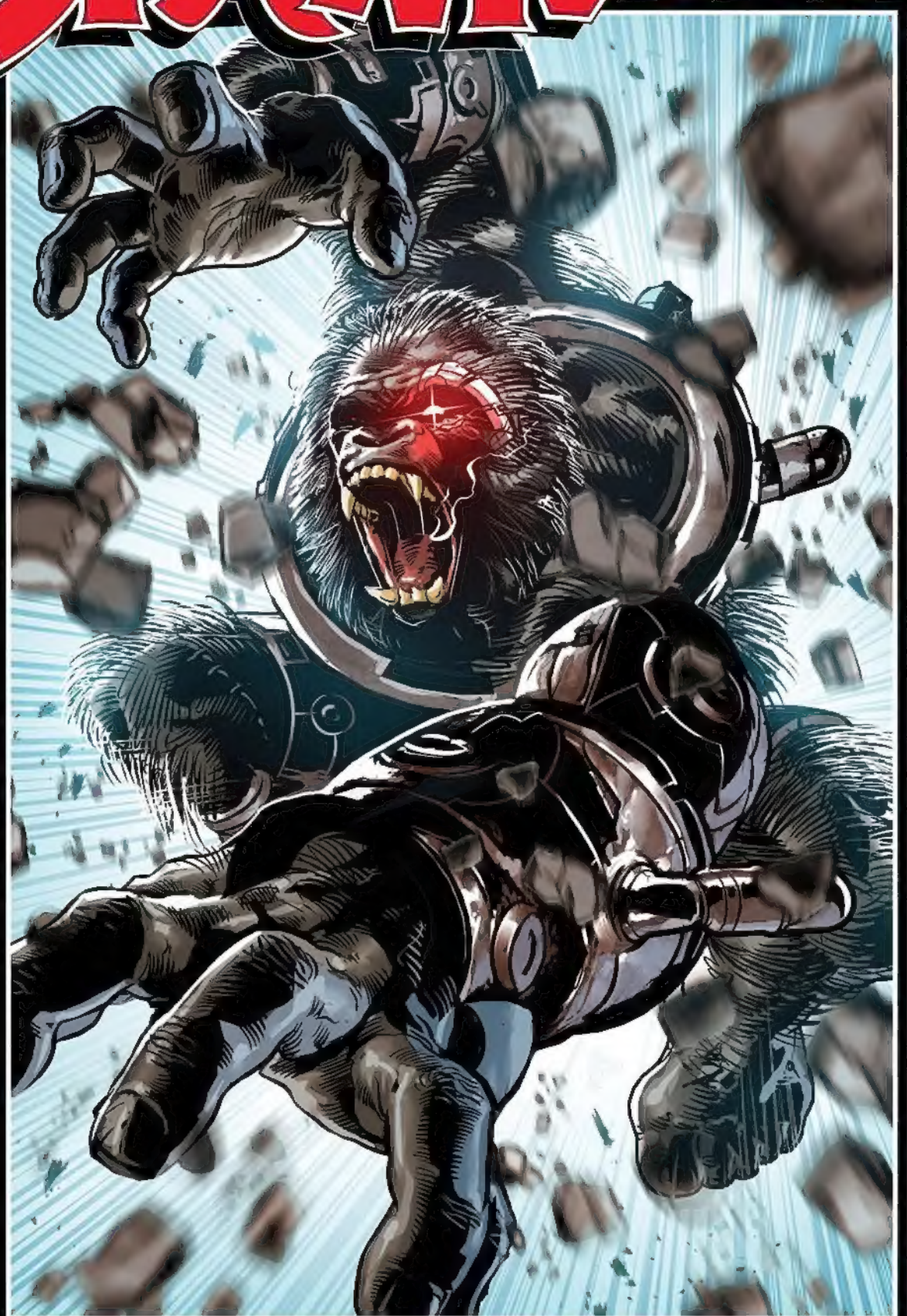

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